

Message Text

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USDEL MBFR VIENNA

USMISSION GENEVA

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY BONN

USMISSION NATO

USMISSION USBERLIN

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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SALT

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TAGS: US, PINT, PARM, XG

SUBJECT: AMERICAN PRESS COVERAGE

GENEVA FOR CSCE

INFO FOR PAOS

1. HIGHLIGHTS. TUESDAY THROUGH THURSDAY PAPERS FRONTPAGE
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KISSINGER TRIP; TUESDAY WASHPOST FRONTPAGED SOVIET JEWS
SKEPTICAL ON EXIT ACCORD; WEDNESDAY PAPERS FRONTPAGED FORD
SAYS WRONG CONGRESS COULD PERIL PEACE; THURSDAY BALTSUN
FRONTPAGES FORD DENIES WAR-PARTY IMPLICATION. COMMENT

SCATTERED.

1A. TUESDAY PAPERS INSIDE REPORTED SYMINGTON AT UN WARNS ON SPREAD OF ATOMIC ARMS; ALSO SOVIETS BEGIN PACIFIC MISSILE TESTS. WASHSTAR HAD MARGARET MEAD STRESSES ATOMIC RISKS, ALSO ITEMS ALLEGING ARMS TREATY VIOLATIONS.

1B. WEDNESDAY PAPERS SAID US ICELAND SIGN PACT ON FEFLAVIK BASE; ALSO SOVIETS CITE PERILS OF WEATHER WAR; NYTIMES REPORTED SUSLOV SAYS WEST'S ECONOMIC PROBLEMS AID COMMUNISTS; BALTSUN HAD HELSINKI STORY, THIRD STAGE OF EUROPE TALKS SOUGHT. WASHSTAR HAD JACKSON STRESSES TECHNICAL EDGE.

1C. TODAY'S PAPERS REPORT SOVIETS BAR NEWSMAN FLYING WITH

KISSINGER; ALSO RUSSIANS TO BAR PRESS FROM SOYUZ LAUNCHING; PLUS SOVIETS LOFT SATELLITE CARRYING TEST ANIMALS.

2. KISSINGER. NYTIMES GWERTZMAN MOSCOW REPORTS KISSINGER ARRIVED HOPING TO ACCELERATE SALT TALKS AND PREPARE WAY FOR PROGRESS BY TIME FORD MEETS BREZHNEV, POSSIBLY NEXT MONTH, GWERTZMAN ADDING NEWSMEN ON PLANE WERE TOLD KISSINGER IS CARRYING FAIRLY CONCRETE IDEAS ON HOW TO MOVE SALT AHEAD AND THESE IDEAS REPRESENT A WASHINGTON CONSENSUS. ACCORDING GWERTZMAN, KISSINGER HAS MADE NO SECRET OF HIS CONCERN THAT MOSCOW MAY DECIDE TO HOLD OFF ON ANY SIGNIFICANT STEPS UNTIL WASHINGTON POLITICAL SITUATION IS CLARIFIED BUT BOTH SIDES APPEAR TO BE PREPARING FOR A LATE NOVEMBER SUMMIT IN ASIA. GWERTZMAN SAYS IF KISSINGER FINDS SOVIET LEADERS AGREEABLE TO AN APPROACH ON ACCELERATING SALT, A STATEMENT MAY BE DRAFTED FOR RELEASE IN CONNECTION WITH THE FORD-BREZHNEV SESSION, THAT STATEMENT WOULD BE SIMILAR TO THE MAY 1971 ANNOUNCEMENT THAT LED TO MAY 1972 SUMMIT AGREEMENT. KISSINGER IS ACCOMPANIED BY SONNENFELDT HARTMAN ATHERTON HYLAND LORD.

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2A. WASHPOST MARDER MOSCOW SAYS KISSINGER SEEKS NEW ACCORD TO INTENSIFY NEGOTIATIONS FOR CURBING NUCLEAR WEAPONS WHICH FORD BREZHNEV COULD FORMALIZE NEXT MONTH, ALTHOUGH US OFFICIALLY CONTINUES TO TREAT A MEETING SIMPLY AS A POSSIBILITY. MARDER REPORTS TASS POINTEDLY TOLD READERS KISSINGER HAS VISITED SOVIET UNION MANY TIMES SPECIFICALLY IN CONNECTION WITH PREPARATION AND HOLDING OF SOVIET-AMERICAN SUMMIT MEETINGS. MARDER CALLS KISSINGER APPROACH ESPECIALLY CAUTIOUS, PARTLY TO AVOID CREATING EXPECTATIONS HE MIGHT NOT BE ABLE TO FULFILL. ACCORDING MARDER, AMERICAN SIDE IS DISTINCTLY MUTING TALK OF INTERNAL US DIFFERENCES ON FORMULATING SALT PROPOSALS, KISSINGER PARTY SAYING AGREEMENT HAS BEEN REACHED ON A

RANGE OF CONCRETE US OPTIONS TO BE PRESENTED TO SOVIET UNION, ALTHOUGH THESE ARE ADMITTEDLY SHORT OF BEING SPECIFIC PROPOSALS AND SO INDICATING THAT THERE STILL CAN BE HARD BARGAINING INSIDE FORD ADMINISTRATION ON SPECIFICS.

2B. BALTSUN MILLS MOSCOW SAYS KISSINGER IS ESPECIALLY ANXIOUS TO DEVELOP A FORMULA UNDER WHICH THE TWO SIDES COULD STAVE OFF ANOTHER ROUND IN THE ARMS RACE LEADING TO A NEW GENERATION OF WEAPONS. MILLS REPORTS SPECULATION THAT IF ANY PROGRESS IS MADE IN MOSCOW ON SALT IT MIGHT BE PUT INTO FINAL FORM IN VLADIVOSTOK SO THE TWO LEADERS CAN DISPLAY THEIR CONTINUING INTEREST IN DETENTE.

2C. WEDNESDAY WASHPOST HEADED OSNOS MOSCOW, ARMS TALKS AT CRUCIAL STAGE, OSNOS SAYING NEITHER SIDE HAS ANY REAL EXCUSE FOR DELAYING FURTHER PROGRESS ON ARMS ISSUE, WITH WATERGATE AND NIXON'S POLITICAL VULNERABILITY NO LONGER A FACTOR AND WITH MATTER OF TRADE BENEFITS FOR SOVIETS AND EMIGRATION FINALLY RESOLVED, NO OBSTACLES SHOULD REMAIN IF THE WILL EXISTS IN MOSCOW AND WASHINGTON. OSNOS CITES ONE AMERICAN SOURCE SAYING: IT HAS TAKEN A WHILE, BUT THE WAY HAS BEEN CLEARED; IF THIS TRY FAILS THEN THERE IS LIKELY TO BE A LONG HARD LOOK ON BOTH SIDES. OSNOS ADDS ONE POSSIBLE HINT OF SOVIET LINE SO FAR IS THAT NEGOTIATIONS IN MOSCOW ON UNDERGROUND NUCLEAR TESTING ARE ALREADY BEING DESCRIBED BY KNOWLEDGEABLE AMERICANS AS SURE TO BE LONG AND DRAWN OUT.

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3. NUCLEAR ITEMS. TUESDAY WASHPOST UN SPECIAL REPORTED THAT PREPARED SPEECH OF SYMINGTON EMPHASIZED THE NEED TO PROHIBIT SPREAD OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS TO NEW NATIONS AND SENATOR ADDED THE PERSONAL OBSERVATION THAT US NUCLEAR STOCKPILE IS EQUIVALENT TO 615,385 HIROSHIMA BOMBS AND THAT EVERY DAY SINCE SALT ONE BOTH US RUSSIA HAVE BEEN ADDING NUCLEAR WEAPONS TO THEIR STOCKPILES. SPECIAL STORY SAYS SOME OFFICIALS PRIVATELY SAID ADMINISTRATION CAN'T BE TOO HAPPY ABOUT HAVING ITS PITCH FOR NONPROLIFERATION QUERIED BY A VOICE FROM THE SENATE FLOOR.

3A. THURSDAY WASHSTAR HAD SHORT STORY SAYING MARGARET MEAD, IN CURRENT ISSUE REDBOOK MAGAZINE, WARNED AGAINST A NEW GENERATION OF ATOMIC BREEDER REACTORS WHICH WILL PRODUCE TONS OF PLUTONIUM REQUIRING GUARDING FOR CENTURIES AND CAUTIONED THAT RISKS BROUGHT BY REACTORS ARE SO GREAT THAT EVERY CITIZEN SHOULD HAVE A VOICE IN DECIDING IF THE ENERGY THEY PRODUCE IS WORTH IT.

3B. TUESDAY WASHSTAR HAD SHORT STORY SAYING AVIATION WEEK MAGAZINE REPORTED US HAS EVIDENCE OF SOVIET VIOLATIONS OF TREATY LIMITING DEPLOYMENT OF NUCLEAR MISSILES

INCLUDING NEW ABM SYSTEM BEING BUILT AT LAKE BALKHASH. REPORT SAYS DEVELOPMENTS WERE DETECTED BY ELECTRONIC AND PHOTOGRAPHIC INTELLIGENCE GATHERING DESPITE SOVIET ATTEMPTS TO CONCEAL THEM.

3C. WEDNESDAY WASHSTAR HAS UNSIGNED PIECE SAYING US SOURCES ARE BEGINNING TO TALK ABOUT SOME PUZZLING CONSTRUCTION AND RADAR DEVELOPMENT BY SOVIET UNION AND SAY US IS ASKING RUSSIA WHETHER THEY MIGHT VIOLATE THE NUCLEAR ARMS LIMITATION AGREEMENT. THESE ADMINISTRATION SOURCES SAY THERE IS NO EVIDENCE OF SOVIET CHEATING BUT THAT WE

ARE APPROACHING THE RUSSIANS ON CERTAIN AMBIGUITIES, CERTAIN THINGS THEY ARE DOING.

3D. WEDNESDAY WASHSTAR HAS BRIEF REPORTING JACKSON TOLD SEATTLE AUDIENCE THAT THE SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL EDGE THE US HOLDS OVER RUSSIA ENABLED IT TO WIN CONCESSIONS FROM THE SOVIETS ON EMIGRATION POLICY, JACKSON SAID

RUSSIA NEEDS IMMEDIATE ACCESS TO US KNOW-HOW, ADDING THAT THE NEXT STEP IS TO USE THAT EDGE IN ARMS LIMITATION BARGAINING.

4. WEATHER WAR. WEDNESDAY WASHPOST AP UN REPORTED SOVIET AMBASSADOR MALIK INTRODUCED RESOLUTION CO-SPONSORED BY POLAND, EAST GERMANY, KENYA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA, BULGARIA, MONGOLIA, SYRIA, IRAQ, AFGHANISTAN AND BARBADOS, IN UNGA MAIN POLITICAL COMMITTEE ON TUESDAY TO SUBMIT SOVIET-PROPOSED CONVENTION AGAINST WEATHER-WARFARE TO THE CONFERENCE OF THE COMMITTEE ON DISARMAMENT IN GENEVA. CONVENTION WOULD FORBID USE OF "METEROLOGICAL, GEOPHYSICAL OR ANY OTHER SCIENTIFIC OR TECHNOLOGICAL MEANS OF INFLUENCING THE ENVIRONMENT, INCLUDING THE WEATHER AND CLIMATE FOR MILITARY PURPOSES" AND SPECIFICALLY BAN MILITARY RAINMAKING. MALIK'S SPEECH, CALLED A "SUPERB STATEMENT" BY SENATOR SYMINGTON, SAID SOVIETS FEAR MANKIND COULD BE SUBJECTED TO ENVIRONMENTAL HORRORS SUCH AS ARTIFICIAL TIDAL WAVES AND ULTRAVIOLET BOMBARDMENT THROUGH HOLES IN THE OZONE LAYER UNLESS WEATHER WARFARE IS BANNED.

5. CSCE. WEDNESDAY BALTSUN HAD REUTER HELSINKI REPORTING EAST GERMAN HEAD OF STATE, WILLI STOPH, CALLED FOR THIRD STAGE OF CSCE TO BE HELD IN FINLAND AT HIGHEST LEVEL AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, AND UNDERLINED IMPORTANCE OF CSCE IN TALKING TO KEKKONEN.

6. COMMENT. WEDNESDAY NYTIMES HAD EDITORIAL SAYING PRIMARY VALUE OF LAST JULY'S SOVIET-US TREATY BARRING UNDERGROUND TESTS OF LARGE NUCLEAR WEAPONS IS IN A

PROJECTED BREAKTHROUGH ON VERIFICATION AND ON-SITE INSPECTION. PAPER SAYS REAL CHALLENGE IN MOSCOW TALKS IS TO SEE IF VALUABLE PRECEDENT CAN BE SET IN ON-SITE INSPECTION WHICH COULD SET PRECEDENT FOR OTHER DISARMAMENT NEGOTIATIONS AND INCREASE CHANCES OF ACHIEVING A COMPREHENSIVE TEST BAN AS WELL.

6A. TUESDAY BALSUN HAD EDITORIAL SAYING THAT AS NATION'S BIGGEST BUSINESS, EMPLOYER, BUYER, AND CATALYST OF UNCLASSIFIED

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INFLATION, THE PENTAGON WILL BE THE BIGGEST LOSER FROM

INFLATION, BUT THAT CONGRESS SHOULD NOT BE PANICKED INTO A 100 BILLION DOLLAR DEFENSE BUDGET EARLIER THAN NECESSARY SINCE INFLATION CRUNCH MAY FORCE PENTAGON TO TAKE A FRESH LOOK AT ITS BASIC CONCEPTS AND ECONOMIZE.

6B. TUESDAY NYTIMES HAD OP-ED PIECE BY BROOKINGS STAFFERS, BLECHMAN AND LEVINSON, ON US POLICY AND SOVIET SUBS AT CUBA, SAYING IF SOVIET UNION IS INDEED SEEKING THROUGH SUB VISITS TO PREVENT A SHIFT IN THE TWO SIDES' RELATIVE MILITARY CAPABILITIES THEN THE US RESPONSE TO THE VISITS -- ESSENTIALLY AN ENDORSEMENT OF THE RUSSIANS' CONDUCT -- CAN ONLY ENCOURAGE SIMILAR FUTURE ACTIONS, AND SERIES OF VISITS POSES A POLITICAL CHALLENGE FOR US FOREIGN POLICY. WRITERS ADVOCATE THAT US SHOULD ADOPT A FIRM ATTITUDE TOWARD SOVIET SUBMARINE ACTIVITY IN CARIBBEAN, AND THAT NEW SOVIET STEPS, SUCH AS THE SERVING OF A GOLF-CLASS SUB IN CIENFUEGOS, SHOULD STIR A STRONG US REACTION. ONLY BY DEMONSTRATING A WILLINGNESS TO MAKE ISSUES OF RELATIVELY INSIGNIFICANT EVENTS CAN US CAUSE SOVIET UNION TO UNDERSTAND THAT NORMALIZING OUR RELATIONS REQUIRES MUTUAL CONCESSIONS, THE WRITERS CONCLUDE. INGERSOLL

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